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DRONFIELD

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
HEALTH OF DRONFIELD,
For 1925.

BY

O. H. HUDSON, M.R.C.S.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

DRONFIELD:
A. A. Ryder, Printer, Princess Buildings,
1926.

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Summary of Report.

DRONFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Area: 1,046 acres.

Population: Census 1921—4,435; 1925—4,456.

Number of Occupied Houses: 1921—1,009; 1925—1,090.

Rateable Value: £15,320 16s. 0d.

Assessable Value: £14,605 2s. 3d.

General District Rate: 7/- in the pound.

Poor Rate: 8/2 on Buildings and 2/0½ on Agricultural Land.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate: £55.

Vital Statistics.

Births.	M.	F.
Legitimate	36	35
Illegitimate	3	1
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Total	39	36 = 75. Birth Rate R.G. 16.8.

Number of Women dying in or in consequence of Child Birth: 2.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year: Per 1,000 births—66.

	M.	F.
Legitimate	3	2
Illegitimate	Nil.	

Deaths from—

Measles	1
Scarlet Fever	Nil.
Whooping Cough	Nil.
Diphtheria	Nil.
Diarrhœa	1
Death Rate: Total all ages	10

WATER SUPPLY—

Source of Supply: Moorland water from the Chesterfield Rural Sanitary Authority's Mains.

SCAVENGING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL—

By Council's own Workmen and Carts.

Dronfield Urban District Council.

Annual Report of the Health of Dronfield for 1925.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE DRONFIELD URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in laying before you my Twenty-fifth Annual Report of the Health of the Dronfield Urban District Council.

Physical Features and General Character of the District. The district lies to the South of Sheffield, and is wholly surrounded by the Chesterfield Rural Sanitary District. It has an area of 1,046 acres, none of which is surrounded by water. It is hilly in character, and the soil is carboniferous. The chief industries are coal-mining, iron-founding, malleable castings and edged tool making.

The Population at the Census of 1921 was 4,435, and the estimated population R.G. for 1925 is 4,456, but due to increase from influx the population is about 4,600.

The number of occupied Houses (census 1921), was 1,009, occupied by 1,062 families. The number of Houses in 1925 is 1,090.

The District Rate was 7/- in the £, and the amount of Poor Law relief during the year was £1,143 4s. 0d. The number of people per house was 4.

The Births registered belonging to the District were 75, viz., 39 males and 36 females, which is equal to an annual rate of 16.8. There were 4 illegitimate births, viz., 3 male and 1 female. The average Birth Rate for the last five years was 19.

The Deaths registered belonging to the District were 45, viz., 24 males and 21 females, and equivalent to an annual rate of 10. The average rate for the last five years was 11.9.

Infantile Deaths (Deaths under one year). There were 5 deaths of infants under one year, viz., 3 males and 2 females, which is equal to an annual rate of 66 per 1,000 births. The average for the last five years was 10.2.

There were no deaths of illegitimate children. The causes of deaths were as follows:—Congenital Debility 3, Meningitis 1, Diarrhœa 1.

Zymotic Diseases. The following cases of Notifiable Diseases were notified during the year:—

	Cases.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	8	8	Nil.
Diphtheria	1	1	Nil.
Enteric Fever	1	1	Nil.
Erysipelas	1	Nil.	Nil.
Chickenpox	22	Nil.	Nil.
Pneumonia	4	Nil.	1
Encephalitis			
Lethargica	1	Nil.	Nil.
Pulmonary Phthisis	2	2	1

After receiving notice of any Infectious Disease, the house is at once visited by your Inspector and inquiries made, and disinfectants supplied free of cost. Upon notification from the Medical Attendant that the case has recovered, and is free from all further infection, or after the case has been removed to Hospital, the room, bedding, clothing and all utensils used, are thoroughly stoved with Formalin Vapour, and full instructions given to prevent any further infection.

Scarlet Fever. 8 cases were notified, all being isolated cases, occurring in January, April, September, November and December. All the cases were promptly removed to Hospital and necessary precautions were taken to prevent further infection.

Diphtheria. Only 1 case was notified which was promptly removed to Hospital. Antitoxin is supplied free, in all actual and suspected cases, by your Council.

Enteric Fever. This case occurred in Holmley Lane in some cottages, where the sanitary arrangements were primitive. The ash pits and middens are to be removed and water closets and portable bins installed.

Chickenpox. Owing to cases of smallpox being in the surrounding areas, your Council added Chickenpox to the notifiable diseases, so that all cases of a suspicious character could be under observation.

Pneumonia. Four cases were reported during the year; they were all treated at home. There was one death, which is equal to an annual rate of .2 per 1,000.

Tuberculosis. Two cases were notified as suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis; they have both received treatment at the Tuberculosis Dispensary, and also at the Sanatorium. On receiving a notification, notice is at once sent to the County Medical Officer, and also to the Tuberculosis Visitor, and a full report is received as regards the house and its accommodation for isolating the patient. The house is periodically fumigated with Formalin Vapour, and the patient instructed how to deal with the sputa. There is one death registered; it occurred at the Chesterfield Institution Hospital and must have been an old chronic as I have never received a notification of it.

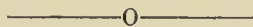
Respiratory Diseases. There were four deaths from Bronchitis, which is equal to an annual rate of .89 per 1,000.

Malignant Diseases. There were six deaths from Cancer, which is equal to an annual rate of 1.3 per 1,000.

Deaths due to Pregnancy. There were two deaths due primarily to Pregnancy, but neither case was due to Sepsis.

Nursing Arrangements and Hospitals Available for the District. The nursing for the School Clinic and tuberculosis cases is carried out by the County Authority. There is a District Nurse, supported by voluntary subscriptions, who is available for home nursing amongst the working classes.

There are four Hospitals under the North Derbyshire Isolation Hospital Board (one of which is in the Dronfield area) for the reception of infectious diseases. Dronfield is within easy reach of the Chesterfield and Sheffield Hospitals for Medical and Surgical cases.



SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water. The water supply of the whole District is supplied by the Chesterfield Rural Sanitary Authority's mains, except one house which is supplied by a well. The water is moorland upland water, and is plumbo-solvent in character. It is purified by percolating and alkaline filters to remove all vegetable and acid matters.

Drainage and Sewerage. The outfall works are maintained in an efficient manner. The methods for disposal are by precipitation and percolating filters. The works have been inspected from time to time and the effluent has been found satisfactory. Out of 1,090 houses, there are only 56 houses which are not in the drainage area. These are all scattered houses on the outskirts of the District and are all served by cesspools which are regularly cleaned out by the servants of the Council.

During the last five years extensions of sewers have been carried out in Calleywhite Lane, Holmley Lane, Gosforth Lane, Cross Lane and Fletcher Avenue, and during this year an extension of the Alexandra Road sewer has been executed—all for the provision of new houses and existing works.

Excrement Disposal. There are 1,090 occupied houses served with the following conveniences, viz., 610 water closets, 468 privy middens, and 12 slop closets. 39 privies have been converted into water closets during the year. 49 new houses have been built during the year and have all been provided with water closets and portable ash bins.

Scavenging. The population served by public scavenging is 4,456. The whole work is done by the servants of the Council at an estimated cost of 12/3 per house, inclusive of administrative charges. There are no details as to costs between privies and water closets. The middens are emptied regularly, in some cases every week, and in others at longer intervals according to circumstances, cubical capacity and dimensions. The work is done in the early mornings, especially on the main streets. A number of fixed ashbins have been converted into portable ones, the latter of which are cleared every week.

Sanitary Inspection of the District. The number of houses inspected under Section 17, were 238. The defects and nuisances discovered were 153, for which informal notices, and 42 statutory notices were served, and 111 defects were abated without further notice. There were 39 conversions of privy middens into water closets.

Premises and occupations which are controlled by Byelaws in force in the District which were passed in August, 1907, are:—Slaughterhouses 7, Butchers 2.

There is one lodging-house in the District under the Bye-laws passed by the Local Government Board, 1893. This house has been inspected regularly and has always been found clean and orderly.

There is only one Inspector, who comes under the Public Health Staff.

Housing. Forty houses were proposed under the 1919 Act, but the scheme was abandoned, and later on 40 houses were proceeded with under the Act of 1923. New houses erected during 1925 under the Housing Scheme, 40, and by private enterprise, 9.

Action Under Statutory Power. There have been 44 houses inspected for housing defects. There was only one house inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910. Closing order has been obtained and served upon the premises and the owner given three months to demolish the building.

Proceedings Under Public Health Acts. 276 informal notices and 52 formal notices have been issued for the abatement of nuisances, and by the expiration of the year 250 defects were removed.

No representations for closing orders under Section 17 and 18 of the Housing and Town Planning Acts have been made.

In view of the Meat Regulations Order which came into force during the year, special attention has been given to butchers' shops and slaughterhouses and notices served upon each butcher and slaughterhouse owner to comply with such regulations, and the structural alterations required are now almost completed.

Food and Milk Supply. There are 12 cowkeepers on the register owning approximately 54 cows. These 12 cow-houses have been inspected 15 times. The cubic air space for each cow in the cowsheds is from 500 to 800 cubic feet.

There is no sterilizing or pasteurising plant in the district.

During the year 27 vendors have been selling milk within the district.

The number of inspections of premises where food and milk are prepared, stored or exposed for sale were:—Bake-houses 12, slaughterhouses 52 for each slaughterhouse. They have always been found in a sanitary condition and the meat of good quality.

Medical Inspection of School Buildings and Children. The School Buildings and conveniences have been systematically inspected during the year. The Medical Inspection of school children is carried out by the County authority. In all cases of infectious disease where children are attending school the head teachers are notified, and children from infected houses are excluded until the house and clothing have been disinfected by your Inspector and all further danger of infection has been reduced to a minimum.

Offensive Trades. There is only one in the District, viz., Tripe Boiling. The structural premises are quite in order and clean and the premises are regularly inspected.

Factories and Workshops within the District are all quite in order from a sanitary point of view. During the year an additional pail closet accommodation has been provided for one factory, and alternative means of fire escape is to be carried out at another workshop.

I am, Gentlemen,

You obedient Servant,

O. H. HUDSON, M.R.C.S.

Annual Report of Sanitary Inspector.

—O—

Dronfield Urban Sanitary District, 1925.

Name of Inspector—WILLIAM ARTHUR PARRY.

Area of District—1,046 Acres. Estimated No. of Houses—1,090.

New Houses Erected 1925 (a) Under Housing Scheme—40.

(b) By Private Enterprise—9.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING—

No. of Houses Inspected under Section 17—238.

No. Unfit for Habitation—1.

Representations made to Local Authority as to Closing Orders—1.

Closing Orders Made—1.

No. Repaired without Closing Order or Notice served—

Number Closed—1.

Number Demolished—3.

Number Repaired Voluntarily—1.

Has a scheme been prepared?—No.

Number of Houses proposed in scheme—

Is the scheme in progress?—Yes.

No. of Houses yet to be completed or erected—3.

	Number of Informal Notices Served by Sanitary Inspector.	Number of Legal Notices Served by Local Authority.	Number of Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.
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DRAINAGE—

No Disconnection of Waste Pipe	—	...
Defective Waste Pipe, Traps, Inlets and Drains	1	—	1
Drains Obstructed	22	—	22

CLOSETS AND ASHPITS—

Defective Privies, Pail Closets and Ashpits (Not for Conversion) ...	41	—	41
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s ...	39	39	21
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C.'s ...	...	—	...
Conversion of Privies into Pail Closets ...	2	2	2
Defective Water Closets ... ..	...	—	...
Provision of Additional Closets ...	1	1	1
Provision of Portable Ashbins ...	55	—	55
Dirty Closets ... ..	...	—	...

OTHER DEFECTS—

Paving of Courts and Yards ...	16	—	16
Roofs, Eaves-Spouts, & Down-Spouts	1	—	1
Sinks ... ..	...	—	...
Insufficient Ventilation ... ..	...	—	...
Windows ... ..	...	—	...
Dampness	8	8	...
Water in Cellars	2	1	1
Water Supply	160	—	160
Overcrowding ... ..	...	—	...
Foul Condition of Houses	6	—	6
Offensive Accumulations	15	—	15
Animals improperly kept	3	—	3
Pigsties	3	—	3
Smoke Nuisances	—	...
Urinals	—	...
Nuisances not specified above ...	1	1	1

Totals	276	52	250
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					Number on Register.	Inspec- tions Made.	Notices Served.	Nuisances Abated with or without Notice.
Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops	...				12	50	...	...
Milk Vendors	...	...	...	...	27	...	...	...
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	2	12	...	2
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	7	260	5	28
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	1	52	...	4
Common Lodging-houses	...	...	...	...	1	52	...	4
Totals	...	...	...	...	50	426	5	38

Infected Rooms Disinfected—Number, 9. Method—Fumigation by Formalin Vapour.

Samples submitted for Examination.—Water—Nil; Milk—Nil; Sewage Effluents—Nil.

Prosecutions, Particulars of—Nil.

Food Seizures—Nil. Food Voluntarily Surrendered—1. Other Action taken—Nil.

Signed :—

W. A. PARRY,

F.S.E., M.R San.L.

